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MAR 0 8 2004

February 6, 2002

By: Carla-See

PATENT Docket No. GC634-2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Bron et al.

Serial No.: 09/954,737

Filed: September 17, 2001

For: Twin-Arginine Translocation in Bacillus

Bron et al.

Group Art Unit: 1653

Examiner: Unassigned

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Description: 1653

Examiner: Unassigned

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Descr

Preliminary Amendment

Box Missing Parts Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

In the specification:

In the specification after page 54, insert pages 1-9 enclosed herewith.

On page 4, please replace the paragraph starting on line 28 with the following:

--Fig. 1A-B. **Tat components of** *B. subtilis* and *E. coli*. The amino acid sequences of Tat components of *B. subtilis* and *E. coli* as deduced from the SubtiList (http://bioweb.pasteur.fr/Genolist/ SubtiList.html) and Colibri (http:/bioweb.pasteur.fr/Genolist/Colibri.html) databases were used for comparisons. Identical amino acids [*], or conservative replacements [.] are marked. Putative transmembrane segments, indicated in gray shading, were predicted with the TopPred2 algorithm (34, 35) (A) Comparison of TatAc (YnzA), TatAd (YczB) and TatAy (Ydil) of *B. subtilis* (Bsu) with TatA, TatB and TatE of *E. coli* (Eco) (SEQ ID NO: 1-6). (B) Comparison of TatCd (YcbT) and TatCy (YdiJ) of *B. subtilis* with TatC of *E. coli* (SEQ ID NO: 7-9).--